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*Exhibition of marine animals suitable for work in vivisection in the congress of physiology at Turin.*

NAPLES, ITALY, August 22, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit the following report:

A novel feature of the congress of physiology, to be held at Turin, beginning September 7, 1901, will be the exhibition by the Naples zoological station of animals suited for the experimental study of physiology. Incidentally, this exhibit will be of interest to the pathologist and the hygienist, inasmuch as creatures adapted to the purposes of vivisection in physiological work are likely to prove useful for experimental work in the study of disease and its prevention.

The Naples zoological station is devoted almost entirely to the study of marine zoology, for the reason that the Gulf of Naples, on whose shores it is located, is one of the regions of the sea where there is the most dense aggregation of marine animals, infinite in the variety of their forms.

Prof. Anton Dohrn, who is in charge of the station, has since the organization of the institution been actively engaged in bringing to the attention of the scientific world new forms of marine life, especially creatures found in Italian waters. The Smithsonian Institution, of Washington, D. C., among many similar organizations in different countries, contributes to the support of the station and is provided with a table in the zoological laboratory, which has at times been used by the medical officer of the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service at this port. The tables of the laboratory are in great demand by scientists of different nations who come to Naples to avail themselves of the opportunities offered by the station and the materials at hand in the waters of the Mediterranean. These workers are of the opinion that the institution has reached the important point where, having facilitated the study of animal forms inhabiting the sea, it can offer as a result of its research important means and material adapted to the study of living tissues and organs.

The preparation of the collection of marine animals suitable for work in comparative physiology is being arranged by Dr. Salvatore Lo Bianco. Baron von Huxkull will present and demonstrate the collection at the congress.

Respectfully,

J. M. EAGER,

*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

JAPAN.

*Report from Yokohama—Plague in Formosa—A case of plague on the steamship Hiroshima Maru from Hongkong—Dysentery in Japan.*

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, August 17, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that, since August 3, the date of my last report, no case of plague has occurred within the limits of this Empire, with the exception of the island of Formosa, where the disease continues epidemic. Returns from there, from January 1 to August 6 of the present year, give the total number of cases as 4,285, with a mortality of 3,404.

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* arrived here August 3 from Hongkong via Keelung, Formosa, having been disinfected and quaran-

tinued for ten days at the latter point on account of the appearance of a case of plague on board two days after leaving the Chinese port. No more cases occurred on the vessel, but, after having discharged her cargo on arriving here, dead rats were found in the holds which, on examination, showed the pest bacillus. The ship was then sent to quarantine for disinfection and the destruction of rats, there to be detained ten days.

This instance well exemplifies the danger of the introduction of plague irrespective of the occurrence of cases in the human subject. Before the detection of the plague-infected vermin the miscellaneous cargo of the *Hiroshima Maru* had been landed and distributed, perhaps carrying with it infection in its most insidious and dangerous form.

Straggling cases of cholera nostras continue to be reported from widely separated districts, but in small number only. Three choleraic cases were, however, reported from Matsuyama, in the southern part of the island of Shikoku, upon August 6, which appear to have been bacteriologically identified as of genuine cholera, and precautions taken accordingly. So far, no further case has occurred in this connection.

The epidemic of dysentery this year, though widely disseminated, has not been extensive when compared with the outbreaks of the last few years. To the 6th instant, the total of cases reported in the country as a whole was 6,064, with 1,006 deaths. In this prefecture the total of cases was 591, nearly all nonurban.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

#### MEXICO.

#### *Reports from Progreso—Yellow fever in Merida.*

PROGRESO, MEXICO, August 27, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended August 24: There was neither a case nor death reported in the town from any contagious disease. Eight deaths were reported from all causes. There were 2 cases of malarial fever aboard of a steamer from Tampico, but both readily recovered with an antimalarial treatment. Two deaths were recorded in Merida during the week from yellow fever, but I was unable to ascertain the number of cases.

Respectfully,

S. H. HODGSON,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

PROGRESO, MEXICO, August 18, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended August 17:

There were 7 deaths in this port from all causes, none being from any quarantinable diseases. Two cases of yellow fever developed aboard of the steamship *Mathilda*, as related in my letter of the 16th. There have been no new cases in the port and no others developed in the harbor.

I have been to Merida to try to determine the number of cases there, but it is impossible to get any correct idea of the situation. Few cases are reported to the health authorities, and those few are generally for-